

§ 5.69

promise of confidentiality or under circumstances from which such an assurance could be reasonably inferred. Also, where the record, or information in it, has been compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority conducting a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security investigation, the exemption also protects all information supplied by a confidential source. Also protected from mandatory disclosure is any information which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to jeopardize the system of confidentiality that assures a flow of information from sources to investigatory agencies.

(e) *Techniques and procedures.* We may withhold records reflecting special techniques or procedures of investigation or prosecution, not otherwise generally known to the public. In some cases, it is not possible to describe even in general terms those techniques without disclosing the very material to be withheld. We may also withhold records whose release would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if this disclosure could reasonably be expected to create a risk that someone could circumvent requirements of law or of regulation.

(f) *Life and physical safety.* We may withhold records whose disclosure could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual. This protection extends to threats and harassment as well as to physical violence.

§ 5.69 Exemptions 8 and 9: Records on financial institutions; records on wells.

Exemption eight permits us to withhold records about regulation or supervision of financial institutions. Exemption nine permits the withholding of geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

PART 5a [RESERVED]

PART 5b—PRIVACY ACT REGULATIONS

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301, 5 U.S.C. 552a.

SOURCE: 40 FR 47409, Oct. 8, 1975, unless otherwise noted.

§ 5b.1 Definitions.

As used in this part:

(a) *Access* means availability of a record to a subject individual.

(b) *Agency* means the Department of Health and Human Services.

(c) *Department* means the Department of Health and Human Services.

(d) *Disclosure* means the availability or release of a record to anyone other than the subject individual.

(e) *Individual* means a living person who is a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence. It does not include persons such as sole proprietorships, partnerships, or corporations. A business firm which is identified by the name of one or more persons is not an individual within the meaning of this part.

(f) *Maintain* means to maintain, collect, use, or disseminate when used in connection with the term “record”; and, to have control over or responsibility for a system of records when used in connection with the term “system of records.”

(g) *Notification* means communication to an individual whether he is a subject individual.

(h) *Record* means any item, collection, or grouping of information about an individual that is maintained by the Department, including but not limited to the individual’s education, financial